Application No.: 10/555,663 Docket No.: 2870-0310PUS1

REMARKS

Claim(s) 1-18 are pending in this application. The multiple dependent claims have been

cancelled.

Conclusion

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action

on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present

application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Marc S. Weiner (Reg. No. 32,181)

at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to

expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies

to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional

fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated:

DEC 4 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Marc S. Weiner

Registration No.: 32,181

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

7

Attorney for Applicant

MSW/sh